# An Anacostia River That's Clean Doesn't Have to be a Dream

Earth Conservation Corps and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Partnership

**Presented by** 

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Washington, DC
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#### **Outline**

- What is the Earth Conservation Corps?
- A Day in the Life of a Corps Member
- Earth Conservation Corps and U.S.
   Environmental Protection Agency
   Partnership
- Interactive Activity
- Activity Wrap-Up/Further Discussion





#### **ECC/EPA Partnership**





#### Goals

- To provide support and to encourage stewardship of the River by Corps members and the community
- To encourage Corps members to take an interest in environmental careers
- To support the educational and professional development of Corps members

#### **ECC/EPA Partnership**

- Started in September 2004
- First Activity: Workshops Held in February and July 2005 and July 2006
  - Water pollution basics, Clean Water Act, citizen engagement, tools
  - Included hands-on water quality monitoring component (July 2005 and July 2006)



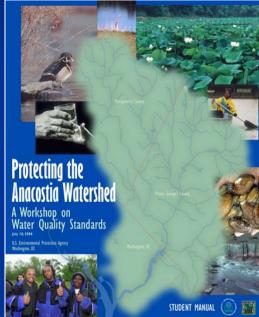






#### Water Quality Standards Workshops





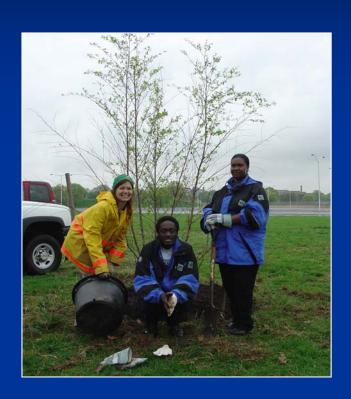






Outcome: Corps members better understood role as advocates and ways to communicate information to the community

#### Other Activities



- Volunteer Events
  - Arbor Day
  - Earth Day
  - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service
- Mentorship and Educational Development





### Other Activities - Clean-Up Events (continued)













#### **Anti-Litter Campaign**

- Early 2006
- Goal: to raise awareness of trash issues on the River and to modify behavior
- March 2006 poster contest for Corps members
  - 8 entries total (4 teams)









#### Anti-Litter Campaign (continued)

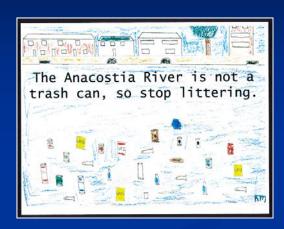


















## Winning Design: An Anacostia River That's Clean Doesn't Have to be a Dream

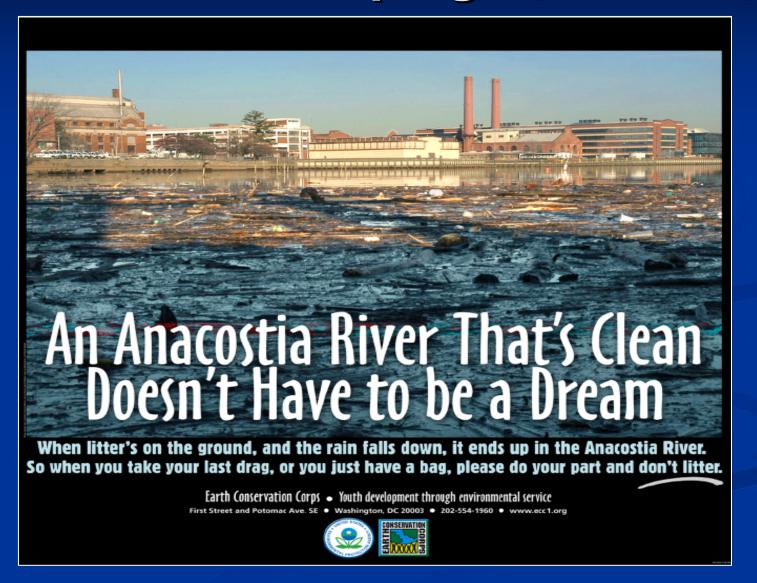




Design team: Richard Moore, Latrice Shorts, Katrina Washington, Hollis Wright, Daryl Wallace



#### Anti-Litter Campaign (continued)



## Anti-Litter Campaign (continued) Spreading the Word

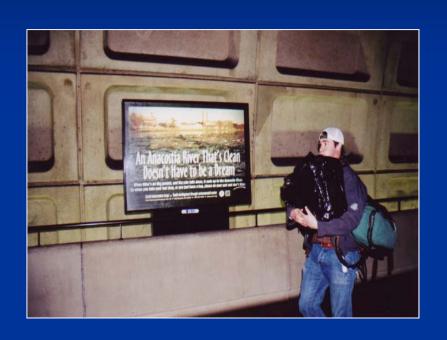
- May 2006: Poster Preview - National Environmental Partnership Summit, Atlanta, GA
  - Official Unveiling: May 16<sup>th</sup> at ECC Graduation
- Has been used in ongoing ECC outreach and educational activities







## Anti-Litter Campaign (continued) Spreading the Word





**April 2007** 

Metro subway station dioramas, interior and exterior bus displays



## Anti-Litter Campaign (continued) Spreading the Word

- April 2007- Poster and press release on EPA's Web site
  - Includes link to ECC Web site.



http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/standards/training.htm#edu





#### **Next Steps**

- This partnership will...
  - continue to support the ECC by providing educational and enrichment opportunities for Corps members,
  - promote the anti-litter campaign through outreach to schools, faith-based communities, state/local government, citizen groups, and other organizations,
  - focus on actions that can be taken to clean-up and restore the River, and
  - develop additional tools and materials to reach out to the community.

The U.S. EPA is committed to restoring the Anacostia River





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#### **Interactive Activity Directions**

- Divide into 4 teams by counting off 1, 2, 3...
- You will work in editorial teams to respond to letters in the "Ask the Editor" column for a social justice magazine, Helping Out.
- You have 20 minutes to draft a response to ONE of two letters to the Editor (Also, see Handout for detailed instructions).
- We will give you a time check to let you know how much time you have left as you draft your team's response.
- Select one member of your editorial team to present your team's response to the Editor-in-Chief and to the editorial staff.

-Good Luck!!-